### MC:SM Rewritten: Book 3 (The Last Place You Look)

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Trapped in the mountain where Ivor let them, siblings Jesse and Nikki strive to lead their friends to freedom, and to Soren. With a little help from some unexpected friends, the gang finds themselves led to the End, and to the last of the Order of the Stone members, seeking the Super TNT and the answers to the secrets of the command block amulet. However, not only is one out of those two retrieved, but an unplanned twist makes the group's luck take a turn for the worst.

# **Table of Contents**

Prologue	3
Chapter 1: Good to See Semi-Familiar Faces	4
Chapter 2: Epic Grinder Fight!	11
Chapter 3: With You till the End	20
Chapter 4: Love is in the Ender-Particled Air	
Chapter 5: The Ender Test	
Chapter 6: Heeeeeeeeeeeeeeere's Soren!	
Chapter 7: The End or a Water Park?	
Chapter 8: That's a Small Problem?!	
Chapter 9: An Unnecessary Sacrifice	
Chapter 10: A Different Kind of Hell	
Editor's Note	31
About the Author	32

### **Prologue**

Book 3 is ready to start rolling out! I mean, it might roll out slow, but at least the releasing has started, right? Maybe even faster than the previous two! Oh, why am I chit-chatting again? PLAY!

You all know the story. The Minecraft story, that is. The journey Jesse and his friends made to stop the Wither Storm and save the world. Once again, they are here to save the world, but with a little help from Nikki, Jesse's little sister, and top protagonist, along with Jesse. The group has found Magnus and Ellegaard, but there are far more surprises to be found as well. Petra has returned alive with a lethal sickness, Ivor is on the move to Soren, but most important, Nikki has found a mysterious amulet, one capable of powers thought to be lost forever. She has gained access to its powers, but has no way to control it. Hoping to find Soren, in chances that he holds the answer, Nikki, Jesse, and their friends have set off to his mountain fortress, only to find Ivor there, searching for answers of his own. Once discovered, he traps them in the mountain, blocking all exits, and any chance of finding Soren and saving the world. But did he really? Or is luck on our heroes' side?

Gee, I dunno, Billy West. IS it? Are people finding the series enjoyable? Or do I need to up my game?



# **Chapter 1: Good to See Semi-Familiar Faces**

Chapter 1 is out! This one might be slow, but I hope not, because it's been a while since I got to work on this series. Oh, and look! I think you MIGHT just know the people about to arrive.

### Jesse's POV

"Nooooooo!"

"Stop. Him!"

"Hur. Ry!"

"You. Won't. Get. Away. With. This!" Jesse swore as he heard the slowed cries of his friends around him, but could do nothing to speed up. Ivor wasn't even out of the room yet, and he was as good as gone. The door slammed shut, leaving everyone trapped.

Just when things couldn't get any worse, Axel, the biggest of the gang, tripped. He fell in slow-mo towards Jesse and his younger sister, Nikki.

"Watch. It!" Lukas, blonde team leader of the Ocelots, their enemies, called out. "Get. Out of the way!" he gasped, suddenly returning to normal speed. At the same time, Axel too returned to normal time and fell short of the siblings, flat on his face.

"Everyone okay?" Jesse asked, checking up on the rest of the group. Axel groaned in reply.

"Ugh, I felt all of that," he moaned.

"That was one heck of a landing, Axel," Olivia, Axel's friend and crush, commented, helping him up. "You alright?" Immediately, Axel was on his feet, raring to go, as if he'd never fell.

"Oh, yeah. I'm ready. Ready to move. Ready to party. Ready to go, go, go!" he said, trying to keep his voice straight.

"Man, what a lovesick puppy," sighed Lukas. "I don't know HOW Olivia doesn't notice anything."



"I think it's sweet," Jenny, the latest newcomer of the group said. "They act so nervous around each other. I wish I was as lucky as they are."

"Oh! Um...well..." Lukas went red. "I...guess they're kinda cute."

Jesse shook his head at the blonde. He was SO hypocritical. Anyone could see his own "lovesick" behavior from a mile away.

"We need to find Soren," Jesse said, looking up at the shut wall.

"I agree. Who knows how long we'll be trapped here if we don't find help?" Nikki sympathized with her brother. Everyone nodded their consent and walked up to take a look at the wall. Meanwhile, Jesse's eye caught Petra, his best friend and secret love interest, staying behind, away from the rest of them, rubbing her arm. Jesse frowned. Even he had to admit, he was under Cupid's "lovesick" spell as well. He elbowed Nikki, and gestured to the trader. They walked over to her, concerned.

### Petra's POV

Petra rubbed her infected arm, hoping it would soothe the pain. There was a reason she looked so dreary. She had been infected with the wither sickness, an odd amplified version of the wither effect, given to her by the Wither Storm, a ginormous monster created by Ivor. The team was trying to stop it, but...Petra couldn't keep up. Jesse and Nikki were the only ones she had told, because she trusted them. Well, in truth, she had meant to tell Jesse only. She felt that she could trust him most because he was her best friend.

But that wasn't the only reason. Petra had a crush on Jesse, a huge one. No, it was more than that: Petra was in love with him. And she knew that he wouldn't tell a soul about her sickness. Nikki had happened to tag along and hear the entire thing, but Petra understood that Nikki knew better. She would stay quiet too.

"Are you okay?" Jesse asked, walking up to her. Petra didn't want to seem weak now, but she didn't want to lie to him either, so she found a better exit.

"Why...are you asking me that?" she said, turning the question on him.

"Because he's worried and he loves—MRF!" Nikki was interrupted by Jesse's hand covering her face. He whispered something inaudible to Nikki, then turned back to her.

"Just checking up on you," he answered, but he didn't look too convinced.

"Everything's fine! All of it," she lied; she felt like she was dying inside. But she couldn't worry them now. "Are you--" she started to say, but was interrupted by a coughing fit. "Wait...are you--\*cough-cough!\* Are you--\*cough-cough-cough!\*"



"Great," she moaned inwardly. "Now they look even MORE freaked out." And indeed, they did. Maybe she should just fess up.

"Look at this," she wheezed, sticking out her infected arm. The purple mark had spread and turned the skin gray. It was up to her face now. Petra was looking worse than ever. "I don't wanna freak you out, but...I'm a little freaked out right now." Just then, Jesse did the unexpected. He took her hand and looked straight into her eyes, making her face more red than gray.

"You're going to be fine," he promised her.

"It's...really painful," she admitted.

"It'll pass," he replied.

"I hope so,"

"C'mon, Petra. This is going too far. We have to tell the others," Nikki said, but Petra wasn't buying.

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"This...isn't a 'we' thing,"
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"If it becomes more of a thing, I'll tell everyone. But...let me do it."

Nikki looked skeptical, but she nodded once and left. Jesse cast one final look at Petra, then turned away and followed his sister. Petra hoped Jesse would put truth to his words.

#### Lukas' POV

Lukas glanced back suspiciously at Jesse, Nikki, and Petra. What were they talking about back there? Jesse and Nikki turned around, and he quickly turned away. Had they caught him listening to them talking? Surely, they wouldn't get confrontational about it...would they?

"Hey, Lukas?" Jenny leaned over and whispered to him. "Can I speak with you for a sec?"

"Hmm? Oh, yeah, of course,"

"Do you think that--"

"Hey, guys. I have an idea," Axel said, before Jenny could speak. Lukas was disappointed he couldn't hear what Jenny had to say, but maybe they wouldn't be stuck here after all. That is, if Axel's idea actually worked.

"Okay?" Lukas said, walking forward with the rest of the team. Axel turned around, cupped his hands to his mouth, and—

"Magnus, help!" he called out. He turned to the others, obviously pleased with himself. But no one else seemed to be. "Well, alright...I have another idea," he said, turning around ready to shout again.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Yes, it is. We're a team, and they all deserve to know,"

<sup>&</sup>quot;Maybe—look, I'll tell them...eventually,"

<sup>&</sup>quot;You HAVE to,"

"Is it yelling for Ellegaard?" Olivia asked. Axel looked crestfallen, and let his hands fall back down.

"Well...not anymore," he sighed.

"Look, they aren't coming back," Lukas told everyone. "We have no idea where they are."

"They couldn't abandon us if they wanted to!" Nikki protested. "For one thing, Axel is loud and annoying, so they'd know where WE are--"

"Hey!" Axel snapped.

"—And for another, they don't know enough about the Storm. They NEED us if they're ever gonna take it down." Nikki reminded him.

"She has a point," Jenny admitted. "But that doesn't bring them any closer to us."

"Still not convinced?" Jesse asked, reaching into his pocket. "Well, we also have...THIS!" And he brandished a set of flint and steel.

"I don't get it," Olivia said.

"It's not...that's not what I meant to pull out," Jesse insisted, reaching back in his pocket.

"So much for a dramatic reveal, huh, bro?" Nikki teased.

"Oh, hush up," Jesse retorted. "Hold on, it's...THIS!" That's when Lukas' attention was caught. It was the amulet. And its green and red bars were glowing, meaning Magnus and Ellegaard were still close by! Just then, the lights faded out. Was it broken? Or were they out of range now?

"Here, let me see it," Lukas said, taking the amulet. But Jesse retained a firm grip, and Lukas found that he had to tug. Was he serious? Jesse couldn't hoard all the leadership now!

"Do you mind?" Jesse hissed dangerously.

"I just—want to—see it!"

"You can see it without touching!"

"Not if you can't get it to work!"

"It's working fine!"

"Shut the hell up! Both of you!"

Both boys stopped tugging on the amulet and flicked their heads over to Nikki, alarmed and a bit scared.

"Honestly!" she said with an exasperated sigh. "First Axel and Lukas, now you and Lukas! Do you males do NOTHING but argue?" Both Lukas and Jesse faced the floor, and Lukas let go of the amulet. "Now, listen: do you hear that?"

Lukas tuned his ears, and he was surprised to hear a scraping sound. He was so intent on his fight with Jesse, he had hardly noticed it. To even more of his surprise, he could see a section of the floor turning purple and breaking up.

"Whoa! Everyone, get back!" Jenny warned the rest. Startled, Lukas jumped clear, as did everyone else. The floor broke away completely to reveal...three people?

"\*Whoof!\*" a ponytailed girl huffed in exhaustion and wiped her sweaty forehead. "I KNEW we should've taken that left turn at Albuquerque!"

### Nikki's POV

Nikki couldn't believe her eyes. It was Kristine, William, and Pretty, her friends from EnderCon!

"You guys!" she exclaimed, wrapping them in a hug. "What are you doing here?"

"On a mining expedition," answered William. "We wanted to stock up for the Wither Storm apocalypse, but I guess finding other people is even better. Now we can survive this together."

"We can do more than that," Jesse said. "We're on a mission to take the Storm down. Then, maybe none of us have to hide."

"That sounds great..." Pretty said slowly. "But right now, it looks like we're stoned."

"Prettyyyyy...this is no time for puns!" William scolded.

"Wait—that's Lizzy's line!" Nikki suddenly realized another three of her friends were not present. "What about Lizzy, Rai-Rai, and Van? Are they okay?" Kristine faced the floor when Nikki said this.



"T...They were taken by the Storm, Nikki," she admitted. "Pretty, William, and I were the only ones able to get away." Nikki bowed her head and swallowed hard when Kristine revealed the terrible news. She hardly even noticed it when Jenny patted her shoulder very sympathetically. Her poor friends...

"No," Nikki said sternly, straightening up. "I won't take this. The Wither Storm has destroyed my home, killed my friends, and made one of them sick. That floating hunk of junk is TOAST."

"Then we'll help out," Pretty offered, smashing her fist and her palm together. "I rather enjoy toast."

Yup! Turns out Michioreo123, fighter33000, and PrettyXTheXArtist have joined the crowd! How will they help out? Is Jetra the only ship blooming? Why do I constantly ask questions at the end of chapters, where the last one is some sort of joke? IDFK!

Fun fact: IDRK if Pretty actually likes toast. I just guessed XD

# **Chapter 2: Epic Grinder Fight!**

Hopefully, this EPIC chapter will save me the shame of not being able to name my chapter titles wittyly!

\*holds out serving tray in the shape of an open book\* Here you are, my sirs and ladies. One Chapter 2 of Book 3, garnished with a ton of awesome fighting, epic scenes, and just a DASH of Lukesse shipping sprinkled in! Oh, and for dessert, we have a simply scrumptious plot twist! Enjoy!

#### Olivia's POV

Olivia recognized the people from the building competition, and was glad they had joined the team, but what else did they have to share, other than their assistance?

"Hey, you guys came from underground, right?" she asked. "Do you know a way out of here?"

"Heck yeah, we do!" said Pretty. "Just down this way, there's a tunnel that we didn't make, and we were just on our way to investigate when Kristine here heard voices and decided to mine upwards instead."

"Hey, if YOU heard odd unidentified voices, would YOU let them go unnoticed?" Kristine retorted.

"YES!"

"Well, I don't! And look who we found!"

"Are they always like this?" Olivia whispered to Nikki.

"Beats me. I've only known them so long," she replied. At that moment, as soon as they started to descend, the white bar of the amulet began to glow. And everyone knew what that meant by now.

"Soren!" Jesse exclaimed. Petra got up and took a look at the amulet.

"Find him, Jesse. Maybe he can help us," she suggested.

"There's something down there," Lukas said, pointing to the bottom of the tunnel the Deviants had mined. The floor was polished andesite, something previously built. Olivia watched as Jesse jumped down first and dropped the amulet when he was about three blocks up from the floor. Bats, startled by the movement, flapped away. Zephyr squeaked with mild interest, delighted at seeing one of his kind. At least one-half of it.

"That could've been a disaster," she breathed; relieved that Jesse had made such a smart move. He then beckoned everyone to come down in pairs. Lukas and William went down together, then Olivia and Kristine, and finally, Pretty and Axel came down, flattening Lukas and William.

"You couldn't have floated down with your dragon blaster?" William complained as Pretty sat on him.

"I could've. But this is way more entertaining," the princess teased.

"Off. Of. Me!" her bearded friend ordered. As Pretty got off, Jenny took Zephyr and Reuben down, and then, Nikki and Petra hopped down at last. But to Olivia's surprise, Petra stumbled when she landed, and Nikki had to steady her.

"Everyone okay?" Jesse called out, especially to Petra, Olivia suspected.

"I just slipped," Petra assured the group, but she sure didn't LOOK like it was just a slip. Olivia rose an eyebrow at Petra, and then continued on with a shrug. The tunnel was damp and dark, but at least they were in numbers. The gang walked along in awkward silence.



"So..." Olivia said to Kristine, attempting to strike up conversation. "You do redstone?"

"Often, actually," Kristine replied rather brightly. "There are these two twins who know a lot about it, and we just LOVE to--"

"Hey! There's a light at the end of the tunnel!" William interrupted their conversation. He was right, there was a bright light shining at the end of the walkway. Everyone picked up their pace and found themselves peering over an edge. Olivia got to the front to get a better look—and a look of horror crossed her face. In front of her, was the biggest, most complicated machine she had ever seen. Water poured out of the other tunnel mouths, similar to their own, and hostile monsters rode with them. They fell towards a series of mashing pistons, which killed the monsters, and sucked up what they dropped into water tubes below. The worst part was, she recognized it.

"We have to get out of here!" Olivia tried to warn the others.

"What?!" Lukas called back. He couldn't hear her over the bashing and the water flow.

"We have to get out of here!" Olivia repeated. This machine...it was a grinder!

#### Axel's POV

"This grinder is meant to kill monsters and take their loot!" Olivia explained. "Problem is they can't tell the difference between humans and monsters!"

"Well, we came this far," William said, as if the conversation was over.

"Yup. Soren will be missed. The world, too," Axel agreed, ready to walk out. Put Kristine blocked their path before either of them could walk back down the tunnel.

"Whoa, whoa! Not so fast," she warned. As they were arguing, they all heard the familiar hiss of creepers. Lots of them. Axel watched as Jesse and Petra shot forward, taking the explosive mobs on together. He couldn't help but notice just how in sync they looked, as if they had been fighting together their entire lives. However, even with Jesse and Petra fighting them, the creepers kept on coming until there were too many to fight. If they reached the group, the explosion would be unbelievable! If they even survived that, by some crazy miracle, it would be fall damage that would be the death of them.

"Everyone!" Pretty shouted. "Hit the dirt!"

No one understood why, but things were too desperate for an argument. They all dropped, and Pretty's right eye glowed purple. Then, out of the blue, a dragonhead blaster like the one William mentioned before appeared. With one giant blast, it got rid of all the creepers. Well, most of them. One creeper exploded, right as the blast hit it, causing a major explosion to open a hole in the grinder tube. They were out of range, so everyone was fine. But it opened a water fissure that sent a current straight for them!

Axel and his friends managed to stand their ground, but Jesse was sliding dangerously close to the hole! He couldn't let him fall! Quick as an ocelot, he pounced and saved Jesse before the current carried him over the edge. Jesse appeared to drop something, but Axel didn't catch what it was. He dragged Jesse back to the safety of the ledge. He listened to the clatter of the item that dropped, and had a sinking feeling that he knew what it was.

"Was that--" Olivia started to ask, but she trailed off.

"The amulet," Jesse sighed. "Yes."

"Well, we can't just leave it there!" Nikki said, walking dangerously close to the opening.

"Are...Are you gonna jump?!" Kristine gasped. "You're gonna jump, aren't you?!"



"Tuck and roll," Nikki replied simply, but she didn't look too confident about it either. Then, to Axel's surprise, Jesse stepped next to his sister.

"Right behind you, sis," Jesse promised. Petra padded up next to him.

"Me too," she said.

"Well..." Axel had to admit. "This COULD be fun." Pretty read his mind, apparently.

"Ah, yeah! It's time for these monster freaks to have a PRETTY bad time! Hai-kee-gee!" she yelled excitedly, more than ready to go. That's when Axel started feeling confident as well.

"Let's get some!"

### Jenny's POV

Jenny pounced down after Jesse, Nikki, and Petra. She watched as Petra raced ahead and whacked a creeper down. It exploded on the way, opening another tunnel, where zombies came shuffling out. She and Jesse stopped at a short staircase, which led to a platform where another creeper was. Jesse claimed it and shot towards it, hitting it into a wall, where it exploded, leaving a gaping hole from where cave spiders crawled out.

"Dude! This is like one of those epic-yet-cliché title OPs!" Nikki commented as she, Jesse, Petra, and Olivia ran down another direction. The Deviants were running down another direction, taking out some skeletons along the way. Jenny was just about to follow when she heard Axel yell. She turned and saw him cornered by a zombie, to which she quickly came to his rescue. She knocked it off the edge, where it fell towards the meshing pistons.

"Jenny! Get down!" Axel warned. He punched another zombie at her, and she ducked and rolled it off her back in response. "Who wants more?!" he challenged as he took off elsewhere.

"You're asking for more?!" she said in disbelief. Axel ran onto another platform, where he jumped and barely missed a



skeleton's arrow, which buried itself into the wall, right next to Olivia's head.

"Hey, ugly!" Nikki's voice called out to the skeleton. She slid into the scene, dodging an incoming arrow, and hit it off the edge. Seeing that Nikki and Olivia had it covered, Jenny turned her attention to Lukas, who was kicking away some cave spiders. She ran to aid him, but one of the cave spiders turned on her and lunged. She ducked, and it fell into empty space instead. She turned back to Lukas, about to ask about his condition, but he was too busy shaking and backing away. Jenny whipped her head around and saw several more cave spiders crawling out from the

wall, hopping off and advancing on them. But just as they corralled the pair together, another water stream came down.

"Hold on!" Jenny warned, sheathing her sword and bracing herself.



"Whoa!" Lukas yelped as the water carried them off their feet and to the edge. Luckily, they managed to get a grip on the edge while the spiders were taken away with the water. Jenny tried to pull herself up, but the edge was too slippery.

"Easy, easy, I gotcha," Lukas said, taking her hand and pulling her up.

"Thanks--" Jenny started to say, but she was interrupted by the sound of Nikki yelling. She turned and saw the young girl riding on another water stream, seated on a wooden slab. Zephyr was buried underneath the sleeve of her shirt, trying not to get wet. The Deviants were riding right behind her, also seated on slabs.

"I'm gonna craaaaaaaaaash!" cried Kristine as she went spinning down the water.

"I'm gonna hurl," moaned William, looking green as his slab spun repeatedly in a circle.

"This would be fun if we weren't in such a precarious situatioooooon!" Pretty shouted as she too went spiraling across the water. Jenny and Lukas took off after them. As they did, Jenny saw Jesse sprinting after Reuben, who was running off in a panic. She also saw Petra surrounded by creepers. The redhead was doing her best to keep them at bay, but one was sneaking up behind her. Jesse noticed this and ran to her, hitting one creeper into the other, creating the domino effect and sending both off the side, well away from them.

Reuben pelted between Jenny and Lukas, squealing bloody murder as he ran off. The poor thing must've been terrified. Leaving Jesse and Petra to fight the creepers, Jenny continued her chase after Nikki while Lukas went after Reuben. She ran past Jesse, just as a creeper came flying in, knocked in their direction by Petra. The two jumped off together. Jesse landed hard on the ground below. Jenny probably would have too, had Lukas not been under her. She flattened him, but at least they were okay.

Lukas looked extremely red. He pulled his arms out from under her and took off like a shot, leaving her to wonder: had Lukas been trying to catch her? Why?

"The amulet! It's over there!" Lukas shouted, pointing to the tiny object, still shining white. Before anyone could make a move towards them, Nikki, Zephyr, Reuben, and the Deviants made a rough landing from that water stream they had been riding on. A few more mobs had been caught in the stream too, and now, Nikki and her friends were surrounded. Nikki drew her sword and slashed at a creeper, which died on the spot. Kristine was shovel-stomping a zombie with a stone shovel.



"Go on, you TWD lurker rip-off!" she grunted with effort as she smashed it. "Make—my—day!"

"Mother of Notch in a handbasket!" Pretty gasped as she sent purple spikes in different directions all around her, skewering mobs as she went. "If I said it once, I'll say it again! NO, I AM NOT TAKING REQUESTS!"

Jenny didn't have a clue what she was talking about, but she didn't have time to think it over. The water stream that washed Nikki and her friends in pushed the amulet to the very edge of the platform, where it teetered dangerously.

"I gotta help them!" Jesse cried, only caring about the situation his sister was in.

"What about the amulet?" Lukas asked.

"You get it! I'm coming, Nikki!"

Jesse jumped of the ledge, after his sister, leaving Lukas and Jenny to stand and watch as he totaled them.

"How are we supposed to reach it with all these things in the way?!" Lukas wondered aloud.

"Just follow my lead. I have an idea," Jenny said, rushing forward. Lukas followed, with nothing better to do, she guessed. As they ran for the amulet, two zombies fell from above, got up, and moved in on them!

"Quick! Grab my hand!" she shouted, stretching her hand out for Lukas to grab as she continued to run.

"H-Huh?!" he replied a bit stupidly.

"Just take it! Quick!"

Lukas didn't hesitate anymore; he took Jenny's hand. It felt warm and soft in hers, but she tried to ignore it. "Go on the other side of them," she ordered. Lukas obeyed, stretching their arms out like a rope. They caught the zombie pair around their waists, dragging them along with them, until they reached the end of the cliff, where Lukas and Jenny stopped short, but the zombies, taken by the law of inertia, were tossed over the side to their deaths.

Their path successfully cleared, Lukas ran down and picked up the amulet, just as a creeper fell to the ground and died in front of him, pushed over by Jesse. Just when Jenny thought that they had done it, a creeper fell in out of nowhere, and a water stream poured in again. Axel managed to stand strong against the current, and he picked Nikki and Reuben up so they would be safe. Lukas grabbed a fence post, and grabbed Jenny's hand, but Jesse was washed away with the creeper before anyone could grab him.

"Jesse! No!" Nikki cried, struggling out of Axel's grasp and jumping after him. If it hadn't been for the endless mobs pouring out of the tunnels, Jenny wouldn't have followed. For all of a moment, she was falling through empty space. Then, somewhere on the way down, she and Lukas somehow managed to become level with each other. They only stared at each other, each lost in the other's eyes, searching for something, but what? It was like something like this had happened before...something romantic.

Jenny wasn't sure what she would've done next, but the water below crashed over her head fast, and they were immersed in the pool. Petra, Olivia, Axel, and the Deviants came splashing in after them. For a moment, they thought they were safe. Then, the worst happened last. Reuben was sucked down into a tube. Then Petra went down a different one. William, Pretty, and Kristine went down different ones too. Everyone was sent down a different water tube. Jenny tried to swim away, but the tug was too strong, and it swept her away, into who knew where.

Well, I pray you enjoyed your meal? Yes? Wonderful! What's that you say? Still hungry? Well, our author will be in the kitchen office, ready to cook up some more! Time to fire up the computer!

So! Who recognized themselves in the story? :P Ehhhhh...only three, I guess.

## **Chapter 3: With You Till the End**

Oh, wow, look. The first HALF-DECENT title I manage to come up with, and it turns out to be a bloody pun. PERFECT!

#### Nikki's POV

Nikki landed flat on her face in some sort of sorting room. Or, at least, she WOULD have had Jesse and Reuben not been under her. As she got up, she noticed the organization system, which collected the loot from the grinder and sorted it.

As she stared at the endless storage chests and water tubes, she heard a huge *whoosh* of water. She looked up, and jumped out of the way just in time to avoid Olivia, Lukas, Jenny, and Petra pouring out from the stream that fell from above. They were rattled, but they looked fine. However, she noticed a few people missing from the group.

"Hey, where are Axel and the Deviants?" she asked.

"I thought he was right behind me," Olivia swore. Just then, as if he had answered to a cue, Axel fell from the ceiling above and landed right on Lukas.

"No, no, don't worry. I'm totally fine," he assured to the group, who stared at him.

"Whyyyyyyy?" Lukas groaned in pain.

"Oh, crap. I'm sorry,"

Axel stuck out his hand to help Lukas up, and for a second, Nikki actually believed he was accepting the blonde into the group at last. Then, at the last second, he turned away to pick up Reuben, leaving Lukas to slip and fall again.

"Well, that's Axel, but what about the Deviants? Did you see them, Axel?" Nikki asked worriedly. "I saw them, but they went down a different pipe from me," Axel said. "I don't think we'll be seeing them again. Sorry, Nikster."

Nikki felt her heart plummet down her chest. Not Kristine, fighter, and Pretty too! What would happen to THEM? Images of the Wither Storm whirled in her mind, and the thought of seeing her friends get sucked up into its deadly beams worsened the thought. Looking up and seeing

Jesse, though, comforted her. They were alive, thanks to him. She knew they were now.

Keeping Zephyr, who had been knocked out due to the water damage, in her pocket, she walked over to her brother to say her thanks.

"I knew you'd come for us," she said. "Well, at least I did. My friends had their doubts."

Jesse smiled and placed a hand on her head. "Just glad you're okay. I'm sorry about your friends, though..."



"Ah, don't worry. They'll be alright,"

Silence.

"...Y'know, there's something different about you, Jesse. About us."

"Really?"

"Yeah. I mean, look. We were just two lovable losers who lived in the trees with our friends and fangirled over the Order. Now, here we are, practically WORKING with them, and we don't even flinch. What's up with that?"

"Well, if I had to put it in words...it's really our focus on the task at hand. The world is in serious danger, Nikki, and not even the greatest are enough. We're all the world has to give, I guess."

"That's...not exactly what I meant,"

"Then what's--"

"Hold on, hold on, hold on!"

Axel's familiar booming voice interrupted the sibling's conversation. His face was pressed up against the glass floor of the room, beaming with delight.

"This is where all the loot gets sorted, right?!" he asked enthusiastically.

"That's exactly what it is," Olivia confirmed.

"See that? Our luck is turning around!" Axel said, pushing past Jesse and Nikki. Thrown nearly off-balance, Nikki scowled at her big friend's rudeness.

"Aaaaaaand, the sentimental bro-to-sis is ruined by the fat guy," she said jokingly, making Jesse laugh. Cracking the barest hint of a smile, she brushed herself off and walked after him. It was time to get a move on.

### Jesse's POV

Jesse dusted himself off from Axel's brief push. He knew the big guy meant well, but he was extremely inconsiderate sometimes. However, all was forgotten when Petra walked over to him, soaking, but smiling.

"It was cool what you did back up there," she commented. "We stick together, and we'll be fine."

"Thanks," Jesse replied, blushing a bit at the compliment. "You feeling any better?"

"Not even a little bit. And now I'm wet,"

"Oh, yeah, NO ONE'S gonna take THAT out of context," Nikki put in unnecessarily.

"Shut UP, Nikki," Jesse hissed back.



"Speaking of which, I noticed something. Everyone's looking at you guys to lead," Petra went on, ignoring Nikki's previous statement. She then took a peek at someone behind her. "Well, actually...maybe not everyone." Jesse turned to see who was speaking about, and who other than Lukas was there, holding the amulet, trying to get it to glow again.

"It...looks like it's still working," Lukas said, holding it up at certain angles.

"Hey, thanks for grabbing it," Jesse thanked him. "Can I have it back?"

Put in his place, Lukas turned around, a hurt look on his face. "...Not a problem." Just then, the amulet began to glow white again. Lukas turned away from Jesse again to examine it, further annoying him. "Hang on a minute...he's close! Soren's close by!"

"That's great!" Nikki said cheerily, walking up to him. "Now give it!" she snapped suddenly, snatching it out of his hand. Jesse hid a chuckle as his sister turned the amulet forwards into the next room. "Looks like Blondie was right," she reported. "Look how bright it is!"

No sooner had she said so, the light went out. As she shook it, trying to get it to work again, the grinder gave a loud moan.

"Sounds like the grinder is backed up," Olivia said.

"With loot?" Axel guessed hopefully. But what the water stream poured into the room was certainly not loot. It was more mobs!

"Go, go, go, go, go!" Jesse urged, pushing his friends ahead of him. However, he was not fast enough to get himself along as well, as the water stream pushed him apart from the rest, bringing the hostile mobs with him. There was a short, but intense battle as they fought their way through the monsters. Eventually, they managed to break through and escape to a small Room.

"If there's one thing I hate, it's running and monsters!" Axel complained as they made their way up to a set of stairs that led into...

"Holy crap," Olivia whispered. "An End Portal?"



"Who cares what it is?" Nikki said. "That's our way out of here!"

She was just about to jump inside, when Lukas looked back and gasped. "Wait! Wha—Look!"

Jesse turned to see what was going on, only to see Petra get knocked down by a zombie! "Oh no!"

"Petra!" he called out, racing back to rescue his friend. "Get away from her!" he shouted, slicing the zombie down to size with two clean cuts. He found himself jumping and dodging skeleton's arrows before cutting them to death as well. "In your face, monsters!" he cheered once the last one was down. "I think I'm starting to get the hang of this," he added to himself, sheathing his stone sword. He reached down and helped Petra to her feet, but the mobs behind them approached in their swarms. Taking her hand, he took off back towards the portal.

"Wait!" Petra said as Jesse tugged her along. "None of us have been to the End before! Are you sure about this?!"

Jesse cast a single look back at Petra. "Whatever we do, we do it together!" he told her, reminding her of her words to him when they fought the monsters on the bridge. It gave him confidence, and though he couldn't tell for sure, he had a feeling it gave her confidence too. The pair ran back to the others to reconvene, and a skeleton's arrow was shot at their backs, the mobs nipping at their ankles.

"Jump!" Jesse told his friends. And, without a second thought, he leapt into the End Portal, unaware of what waited ahead.

### Lukas' POV

For all of five seconds, Lukas was in a sparkling, black void. Then, the next moment, he landed on his feet, on end stone, on an island floating in empty space. Not too far ahead of him was Jesse, observing his surroundings, which, to Lukas, were absolutely terrifying.



"Oh, great," he groaned. "It just keeps getting better."

Behind the boys, Reuben, Zephyr, and Nikki teleported in next, followed by Olivia and

Petra, that of who once again stumbled, and finally, Jenny teleported in, landing cleanly next to Lukas.

"Err...nice landing," he congratulated her. Jenny didn't say anything in reply.

"Where's Axel?" Olivia asked. "He was right behind me." As if to answer a cue, Axel teleported in, once again landing on Lukas, crushing his bones for the second time that day.

"Ha! See? I told you I'd pay you back," Axel said, pleased at having his fall broken.

"Get...off," Lukas grunted, pushing the big man out of the way so he could see. Once he was able to, he immediately ducked under his arms, terrified. "Ah! Oh jeez..." Lukas dared not look up. Not after what he just saw. But then, a soft voice spoke his name.

"Hey, are you hurt?" Jenny asked concernedly.

"Wh-What?" Lukas spoke, almost indignantly. "No, I'm not crying, just—look!" he pointed behind him, where Jenny almost turned around to face an enderman, Lukas' greatest fear.

Jesse, too, covered his eyes, mouthing "hide" to the rest of the gang. They all scampered behind an obsidian pillar for shelter. Despite his fear, Lukas couldn't help but peek over at the huge...group of endermen. Was that even what they were called?

"So, what would we call that? A group of endermen?" he wondered aloud. "A flock? A herd?"

"How about a f\*\*k ton?" Nikki shuddered.

"Nikki. Language," Jesse scolded.

"Sorry,"

"Hold off on the grammar lessons until later," Olivia suggested. "Which way are we headed?" To answer, Nikki pulled out the amulet. The white bar glowed for a few seconds, but then fizzled out and wouldn't turn back on, no matter how many times she shook or hit it.

"Stuff like that doesn't work in the Nether," Petra informed everyone. "Probably not the End either."

"Ha!" Lukas laughed in disbelief. "Whoo. Great. So we were trapped, and now? We're lost."

"At least we're alive and well," Jesse replied, trying to keep everyone's spirits up. But one look at Petra, and Lukas was nowhere near convinced. "We just have to keep on truckin' until we get to Soren."

Lukas shook his head with a sigh. "Face it, Jesse. We may never find this guy."

"There he is," Axel said simply, pointing a finger at a man with ginger hair, who was climbing a set of stairs up to a floating building.

"Did...that just happen? I can't believe that just happened,"

"That's where we're going next," Jesse told everyone.

"Everyone! Follow me," Petra declared, stepping to the head of the group. "I'll get us to the other side. Just stay behind me and--\*cough!\*--we'll be fine!" However, Petra looked like the LAST person that could lead them through.

"Uh...that's a nice offer, Petra," Nikki said, pulling her back into the group. "But that's okay. There's only one guy who can get us through those endermen alive."

"Well, now, sis..." Jesse said proudly, lifting his chin up a little more. "I'm flattered by the compliment. I'd be glad to get us through--"

"Huh? What? No, screw YOU," Nikki huffed, sticking out her arm so someone else could land on it. "I'm talking about Zephyr!"

Lukas was extremely shocked. "The bat? You want a BAT to lead us through those things?"

"Ender runs through his blood," Nikki explained. "If an enderman looks at him, they won't care. He can get us to the stairs no sweat!" But Lukas wasn't buying.

"Actually, you know what? I'll just go," he said, stepping to the front and giving Jesse a side-glance. "Give me a chance. At the very least, it's got to be better than following an ANIMAL." Zephyr squeaked offendedly at Lukas' comment.

"Maybe we should give Lukas a chance," Jenny spoke up. "I mean, he could--"

"Everyone, follow Nikki and Zephyr," Jesse interrupted her. "And let's pick up the pace, okay?"

"But I--" Lukas began, but everyone filed ahead of him, following the young girl and her pet. Lukas faced the ground, tempted to kick testily at it, but he knew it would attract unwanted attention.

"Y'know...you can go in front of me," Jenny offered kindly. "If...you want to lead someone." Lukas was seething so much, he didn't even notice. He just pushed past her and stomped after the others. He was hardly even bothered by crossing too. Before he knew it, everyone was safe on the other side.

"Nice moves back there, half-pint," Petra complimented Nikki, who gave her a friendly grin. "Thank Zephyr," she replied, scratching the bat's small ears.

"All that matters is, we made it," Lukas huffed, pushing past the others and marching up the stairs, which happened to go a long way up. In fact, after just the first flight, Axel began breathing heavy.

"Man," he gasped. "I hope that someday I come to love something as much as Soren seems to love stairs." Lukas' eyes immediately flicked back to Olivia, but a furiously embarrassed glare was enough to make him look back where he was stepping. Better to just focus on himself, anyways. After all, no one else would care to do the same...

#### Petra's POV

"C'mon, old girl," Petra urged herself. "Just a little further." Her arm was the least of her worries now. If she thought she had been experiencing pain before, she now realized how wrong she had been to think that would be the worst of it. However, she was falling behind, so she had no choice but to keep moving. Finally, up three flights of stairs, she had to stop. Jesse was just ahead of her. Maybe if he waited, she could too.

"Jesse? Can you give me a sec?" she panted, wiping sweat from her forehead. It was SO hard to keep moving with a sickness dithering around.

"Need a hand?" Jesse asked, offering his arm out to her. As much as she longed to take that arm, her pride kept her mouth from saying "yes."

"No, no. I can manage. Thanks,"

Jesse didn't budge. Instead, he walked down to her and took her hand without question.

"What the—Jesse! I told you, I'm fine!"

"Petra, I'm your best friend. We BOTH know you're lying,"

"Ugh! Why do you have to be such a caring dork?"

"Why do YOU have to be such a cute dummy?"

Petra flushed red as a beet. "Did Jesse just call me...cute?"

The redhead warrior hardly noticed the rest of their ascension, as Jesse helped her along. The only thing she DID notice was that Lukas had been giving them a suspicious stare. What exactly did he suspect? Her acclimated amity for Jesse? Or her sickness?

When they reached the top, they found that Reuben, Axel, Olivia, and Nikki were all lying on their backs, worn out.

"So many stairs," Olivia groaned, grudgingly getting to her feet. At the top of yet another set of stairs, there appeared to be a ladder. Petra hoped it wasn't a long one; she'd had enough climbing for one day.

"Whatever this is, looks like that's the way in," she told her friends.

"Welp, after you, big bro," Nikki offered, stepping aside to let her brother climb first.

"Oh, no, no," Jesse said, pushing Nikki in front of him. "Please. Ladies first."

"Oh, NO," Nikki refused, flipping behind Jesse and pushing him towards the ladder again. "Age before beauty."

"Half-pint before the handsome," Jesse replied again, pulling the same move on Nikki and pushing her towards the ladder once more.

"Hey! That's not a gesture!"

"YOU go!"

The siblings kept on trying to push each other towards the ladder, until they finally tripped over each other and landed in a heap.

"Alright. Fine, then," Nikki huffed. "I'll go first. But while I'm climbing, I'm sure everyone would LOVE to hear what color your underwear is. Especially Petra."

"...YOU WOULDN'T,"

"Oh, I think I very much would. What color did Mom buy you again? Was it...lap--"

"NUUUUUUUUUUU!"

Jesse took off up the ladder like a shot, and was instantly out of sight, Nikki silently losing it down below. Petra stared at her, half-amused, half-confused. The way her best friend and his little sister worked together was beyond her.

"O...kay, then," she said hesitantly. "Let's get up there, guys."

HAHAHAHA XD LMAO Nikki, you are, by far, the BIGGEST troll ever. I'm SO glad I got this thing back, it has been WAY too long since I worked on this. But worry not! We're back into it, you guys!

# **Editor's Note**

If you're wondering why there's just a couple chapters, its because the rest, sadly, don't exist. It's likely that Shipper lost motivation or got too busy with other things, so I can't really blame them. This is the best I could archive, so I apologize for the inconvenience. I hope you can enjoy with what you have!:)

## **About the Author**

Hiya! I'm jetrashipper! One part shipper, one part jetra, I don't just ship Jesse and Petra. I ship all SORTS of trash! Lukesse, Olixel, Harvor, Misa, Magnugaard...I could go on! Anyways, I don't just do Wattpad. I also love Deviantart, and the Wiki! Am I a gaming freak? That's one way to put it.

### My Interests:

- -Gaming
- -Listening to Music
- -dA
- -YouTube
- -Animation
- -FanFic Writing

### My OCs:

-Nikki (MC:SM OC)

(She's my main OC, but there's more on the way!)



### Little About Me!:

- -I'm currently genderless
- -I'M SHIPPING TRASH!
- -I'm ALSO known as "theninjakid14"
- -Radki, my OC ship, is one of the most popular in the MC:SM fandom!

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